WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A reuse system comprising:

a host computer which manages using states of products; and

a product terminal which is incorporated in a product used by a user and stores using state of units in the product, wherein when the using state of the unit satisfies a predetermined condition, the product terminal sends using state information representing that the using state of the unit satisfies the condition to the host computer, and wherein the host computer stores the using state information for each unit and when one of the units is collected after use, the host computer determines whether the unit can be reused or not by referring to the using state information of the corresponding unit.

2.   The reuse system of claim 1, wherein the product terminal sends the using state information to the host computer via a telephone line.

3.   The reuse system of claim 1, wherein the product terminal sends the using state information to the host computer via a computer network.

4.   The reuse system of claim 1, wherein the predetermined condition is defined for at least one of a using state of resource of the unit or product, the number of operation times of a function of the product, and an operating time of the product.

5.   A reuse system comprising:

a host computer which manages using states of products;

a store terminal which sends contract information identifying a user and a product purchased by the user, to the host computer in response to purchase of the product by the user; and

a product terminal which is incorporated in the product and stores using state of units in the product, and which when the using state of the unit satisfies a predetermined condition, sends using state information representing that the using state of the unit satisfies the condition to the host computer.

6. The reuse system of claim 5, wherein the system further includes a warehouse terminal which is connected to the host computer and is located in a center where products are kept temporarily to deliver, and wherein the host computer determines units required to be replaced by referring to the contract information and the using state information in a predetermined interval, and informs the warehouse terminal of the units.

7. The reuse system of claim 5, wherein the system further includes a collection center terminal which is connected to the host computer and is located in a center where used products are collected and checked, and wherein the contract information further includes a contract duration, and the host computer determines units required to be collected by referring to expiration of a user's contract from the contract information and the using state information and informs the collection center terminal of the of the units.

8. A method of managing using state of product used by a user, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting operation or state of units of a product and storing at least one of the number of operation times, the number of operating time, and the state as using state information;

checking whether the using state information satisfies a predetermined condition of not; and

sending, when the using state satisfies the predetermined condition, using state information representing that the using state of

the unit satisfies the condition.

9.   The method of claim 8, wherein the steps are performed in a computer incorporated in the product, and the using state information is sent to another computer external of the product.

10.   The method of claim 9, wherein the using state information is sent from the computer in the product to the other computer via a telephone line.

11.   The method of claim 9, wherein the using state information is sent from the computer in the product to the other computer via a computer network.

12.   A recording medium readable by a computer, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the computers to perform a method of managing of using state of product used by a user, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting operation or state of units of a product and storing at least one of the number of operation times, the number of operating time, and the state as using state information;

checking whether the using state information satisfies a predetermined condition of not; and

sending, when the using state satisfies the predetermined condition, using state information representing that the using state of the unit satisfies the condition.

13.   A program product comprising, computer readable instructions and a recording medium bearing the computer readable instructions; the instructions being adaptable to enable computers to perform a method of managing of using state of product used by a user, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting operation or state of units of a product and storing at least one of the number of operation times, the number of operating

time, and the state as using state information;

checking whether the using state information satisfies a predetermined condition of not; and

sending, when the using state satisfies the predetermined condition, using state information representing that the using state of the unit satisfies the condition.